

We claim:

- 1. A composition for treating a CAG repeat disorder comprising a compound which modulates PDE10A expression and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 2. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of: quinpirole, alloxan, miconazole nitrate, MDL-12330A, and tetracyline derivatives such as demeclocycline.
- 3. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said disorder is Huntington's disease.
- 4. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(6R,12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-Hexahydro-6-(5-benzofuranyl)-2-methyl-pyrazino[2', 1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione,

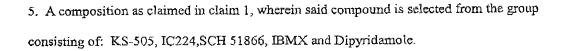
(6R,12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-Hexahydro-6-(5-benzofuranyl)-pyrazino[2',1':6,1]py rido[3,4-]indole-1,4-dione,

(6R,12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-Hexahydro-6-(5-benzofuranyl)-2-isopropyl-pyrazino[2',1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione,

(3S,6R,12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-Hexahydro-6-(5-benzofuranyl)-3-methyl-pyrazino[

(3S,6R,12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-Hexahydro-6-(5-benzofuranyl)-2,3-dimethyl-pyraz ino[2',1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione.

2',1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione,



- 6. The use of a composition as claimed in claim 1 for treating a CAG repeat disorder comprising administering said composition to a subject in need of such treatment.
- 7. The use of a composition of claim 1 for treating Huntington's disease comprising administering said composition to a subject in need of such treatment.
- 8. A method for identifying a compound which inhibits or promotes a CAG repeat disorder, comprising the steps of:
- (a) selecting a control animal having PDE10A and a test animal having PDE10A;
- (b) treating said test animal using a compound; and,
- (c) determining the relative quantity of RNA corresponding to PDE10A, as between said animals.
- 9. A method of claim 8, wherein said animal is a mammal.
- 10. A method of claim 9, wherein said mammal is a mouse.
- 11. A method of claim 10, wherein said mouse is R6/2 transgenic mouse.
- 12. A method of claim 8, wherein said CAG repeat disorder is Huntington's disease.

- 13. A method for identifying a compound which inhibits or promotes a CAG repeat disorder, comprising the steps of:
- (a) selecting a host cell containing PDE10A;
- (b) cloning said host cell and separating said clones into a test group and a control group;
- (c) treating said test group using a compound; and
- (c) determining the relative quantity of RNA corresponding to PDE10A, as between said test group and said control group.
- 14. A method of claim 13, wherein said CAG repeat disorder is Huntington's disease.
- 15. A method for detecting the presence of or the predisposition for a CAG repeat disorder, said method comprising determining the level of expression of RNA corresponding to PDE10A in an individual relative to a predetermined control level of expression, wherein a decreased expression of said RNA as compared to said control is indicative of a CAG repeat disorder.
- 16. A method of claim 15, wherein said CAG repeat disorder is Huntington's disease.
- 17. A method of claim 15, wherein said expression is measured by in situ hybridization.
- 18. A method of claim 15, wherein said expression is measured using a polymerase chain reaction.
- 19. A method of claim 15, wherein said expression is measured using a DNA fingerprinting



technique.

20. (New) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said expression is measured by determining the level of PDE10A polypeptide in said individual relative to a predetermined control level of PDE10A polypeptide.